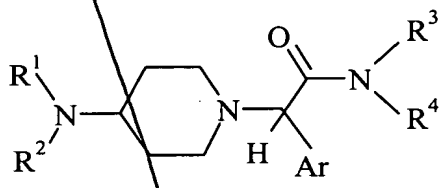
Patent Claims

We Claim:

1. A compound of formula (I):



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

wherein

R^1 denotes 3-hydroxypropyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl or C_3-C_6-cycloalkylmethyl,

R^2 denotes hydrogen, C_1-C_6-alkyl, ω-hydroxy-C_2-C_4-alkyl, 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl or C_3-C_6-cycloalkylmethyl,

Ar denotes unsubstituted phenyl or phenyl which is 1- to 5-substituted by halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy, C_1-C_4-fluoroalkyl, C_1-C_4-fluoroalkoxy or -OCH_2O-;

R^3 denotes phenyl-C_1-C_4-alkyl, wherein the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are selected from halogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_1-C_4-alkoxy, C_1-C_4-fluoroalkyl, and C_1-C_4-fluoroalkoxy;

and

R^4 denotes hydrogen, C_1-C_4-alkyl, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, CH_2COOH, -$CH_2C(O)NH_2$, -OH or phenyl-C_1-C_4-alkyl .

2. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is C_1-C_4-alkyl.

3. A compound according to claim 1, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.

4. A compound according to claim 2, wherein Ar is unsubstituted phenyl or 2,3-methylenedioxyphenyl.

5. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

6. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

7. A compound according to claim 3, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

8. A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^3 denotes 2-phenylethyl, where the phenyl group may be substituted by 1 to 3 substituents, wherein the substituents independently of one another are each selected from among halogen, hydroxy, methyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy.

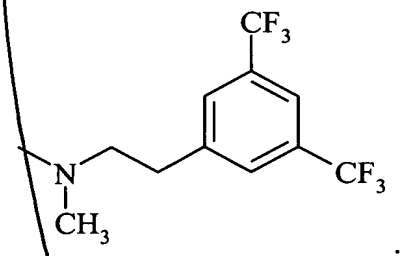
9. A compound according to claim 1, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.

10. A compound according to claim 2, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.

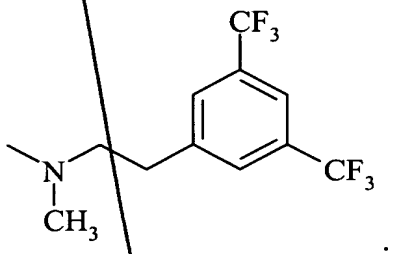
11. A compound according to claim 3, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.

12. A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^3 is 2-(3,5-bistrifluoromethylphenyl)-ethyl.

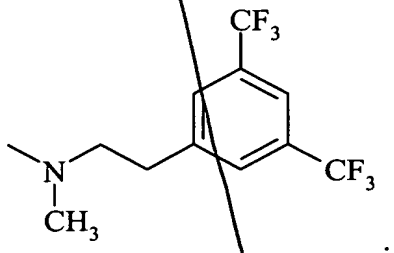
13. A compound according to claim 1, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



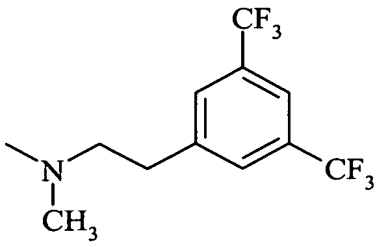
14. A compound according to claim 2, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



15. A compound according to claim 3, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



16. A compound according to claim 4, wherein the group $-NR^3R^4$ is



17. A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 denotes a cyclopropymethyl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.

18. A compound according to claim 2, wherein

R^1 denotes a cyclopropymethyl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.

19. A compound according to claim 3, wherein

R^1 denotes a cyclopropymethyl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.

20. A compound according to claim 4, wherein

R^1 denotes a cyclopropymethyl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 3-hydroxypropyl group.

21. A compound according to claim 1, wherein

R^1 denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

22. A compound according to claim 2, wherein

R^1 denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

23. A compound according to claim 3, wherein

R^1 denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

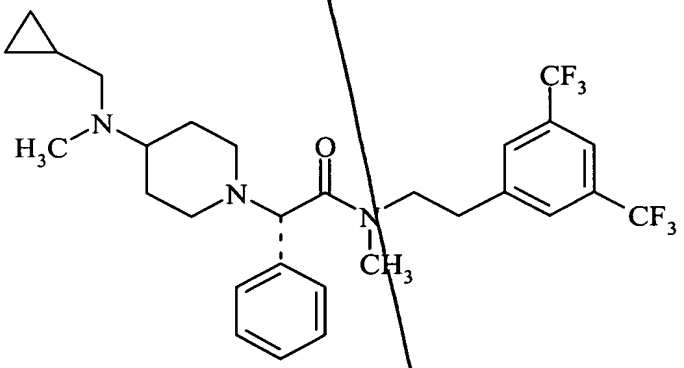
R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

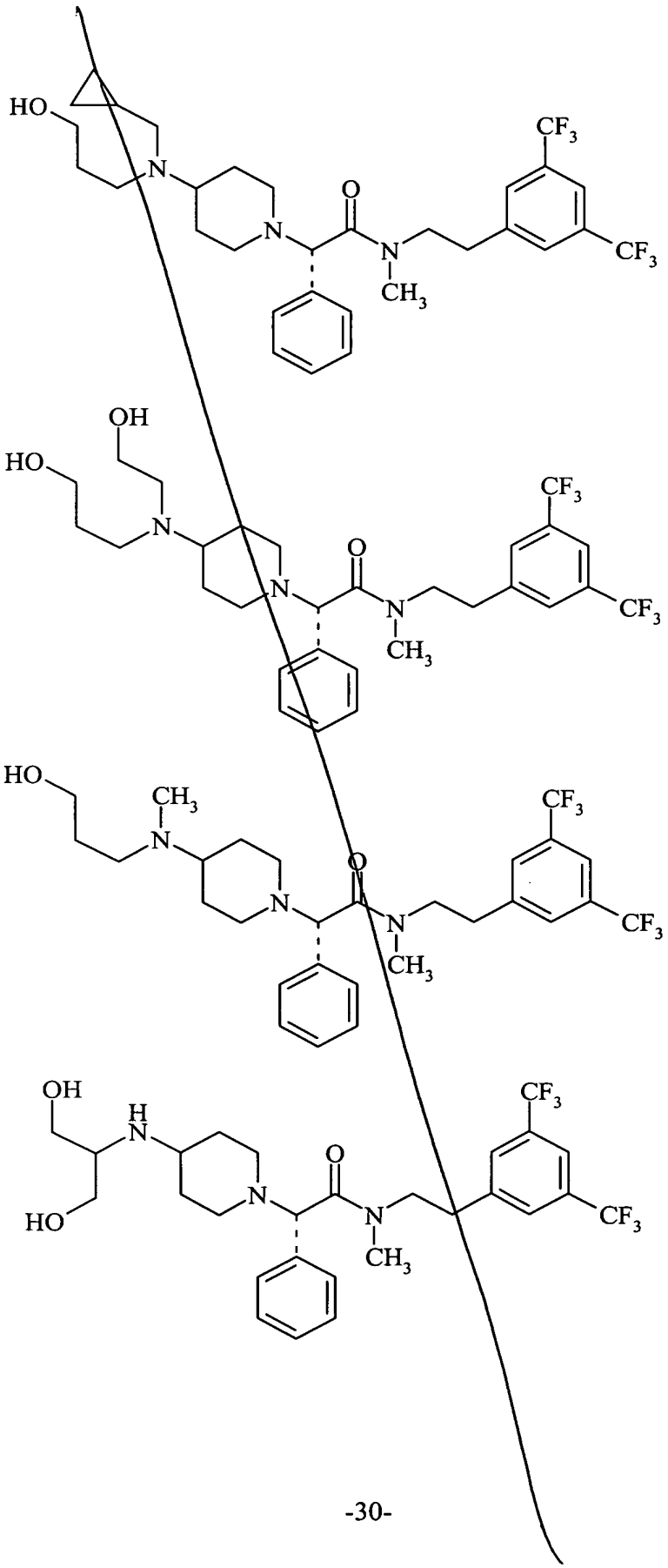
24. A compound according to claim 4, wherein

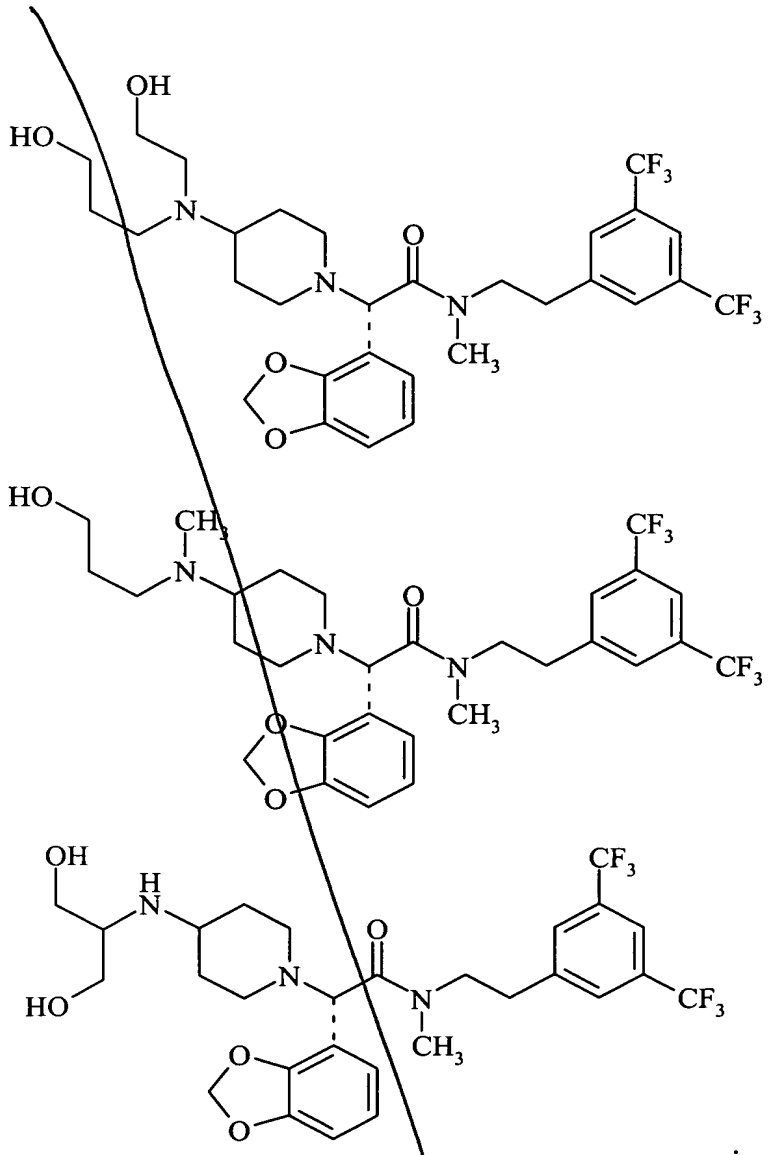
R^1 denotes a 3-hydroxypropyl or 1,3-dihydroxyprop-2-yl group, and

R^2 denotes a hydrogen atom, a C_1-C_3-alkyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

25. A compound according to claim 1, selected from the following compounds:

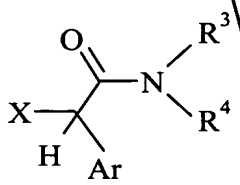



HO
N
N
O
N
CH3
CF3
CF3
OH
HO
N
N
O
N
CH3
CF3
CF3
HO
CH3
N
N
O
N
CH3
CF3
CF3
OH
H
N
HO
N
O
N
CH3
CF3
CF3



and

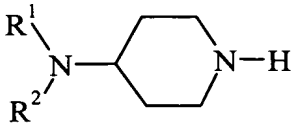
26. A process for preparing a compound of formula I according to claim 1, said process comprising reacting an amide of formula II



(II)

wherein Ar, R^3 and R^4 are as defined in claim 1 and X denotes a suitable leaving group,

with a piperidine of formula III



(III)

wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined in claim 1, in an inert solvent in the presence of a base.

27. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 1 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and excipients.

28. A method of treating a neurokinin-mediated illness comprising administering to a host in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

29. A method according to claim 28, wherein the illness treated is selected from inflammatory and allergic conditions of the airways, eyes, skin, the gastro-intestinal tract, joints, bones and bladder; and central nervous system diseases.

30. A method according to claim 28, wherein the illness treated is selected from the following:
asthma, chronic bronchitis, hyperreactive airways, emphysema, rhinitis, COPD, pulmonary hypertension, cystic fibrosis, coughs;
conjunctivitis, iritis;
dermatitis in contact eczema, neurodermatitis, pruritus, urticaria, psoriasis, sunburn, burns, insect bites, rosacea, itching, sensitive or hypersensitive skin;
gastric and duodenal ulcers, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, inflammatory bowel disease, irritable colon, Hirschsprung's disease, motility problems;
rheumatoid arthritis, reactive arthritis, arthrosis, osteoporosis and Reiter's syndrome;

irritable bladder, incontinence, urinary urgency, urethritis, colic and cystitis; restless leg syndrome;
dementia, Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, psychoses, anxiety states, alcohol or drug dependency, sexual dysfunctions, eating disorders, depression, headaches, epilepsy, Parkinson's disease, stroke;
Herpes zoster, postherpetic pain, tumors, collagenoses, a dysfunction of the deferent urinary tracts, haemorrhoids, nausea and vomiting, and pain.

31. A method according to claim 29, wherein the illness is selected from: COPD, anxiety states and depression.